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Newsletter of the American Society of  
Parasitologists

Parasitology, Harold W. Manter Laboratory of

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Winter 2015

# American Society of Parasitologists Newsletter, v. 37, no. 1, Winter 2015

Scott Lyell Gardner

*University of Nebraska - Lincoln*, [slg@unl.edu](mailto:slg@unl.edu)

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Gardner, Scott Lyell, "American Society of Parasitologists Newsletter, v. 37, no. 1, Winter 2015" (2015). *Newsletter of the American Society of Parasitologists*. 45.

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ASP Newsletter

Vol. 37, No. 1.

Winter 2015

# The American Society of Parasitologists



## Newsletter

*Usually Published Quarterly by the American Society of Parasitologists*

**ASP Newsletter:** Released on the UNL Digital Commons, March 19, 2015.

### From the Editor

As you have seen in the past, we have included interesting and, sometimes, controversial "non peer-reviewed" white papers in the *ASP Newsletter*. Send me a link to your favorite lecture on parasites or consider providing an actual parasite lecture. Your contribution is valuable and anything sent in to me will be considered for publication. There are only a very few items that I have rejected over the years.

Sincerely,

Scott Lyell Gardner, Ph.D.



**Figure 1. Zeiss - Normarsky micro-image of flagellates from a specimen of *Reticulitermes* showing small wood bits in the posterior ends of these individuals. The wood bits are pieces of rotten western red-cedar.**

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## Annual Meeting Registration Now Open



**The 90th Annual  
Meeting  
of the American Society  
of Parasitologists**

**June 25-28, 2015  
Omaha, Nebraska**

Go [HERE to register](#) for the meeting in Omaha, Nebraska. We look forward to seeing everyone!

***Nebraska Parasitology – Peru State College,  
University of Nebraska-Omaha, University of  
Nebraska-Lincoln***

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## Response to David S. Lindsay re: Self archiving of publications from the Journal of Parasitology.

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**Note from the Editor:** When I received President Lindsay's essay for inclusion in the last *ASP NEWSLETTER* of 2014, it seemed to me to be a direct statement of the direction that Allen Press wants to go, and not necessarily the direction that the membership of the ASP wishes to proceed. Therefore, because the **mandate** of the *ASP NEWSLETTER* is to bring to the membership, items of interest, that would not necessarily make it into the *JOURNAL* and to communicate questions, data, and other timely items to the membership, I have asked for comments. Here is the first set of comments that I have received.

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Response to David S. Lindsay Regarding "Self-archiving of publications from the *Journal of Parasitology*"

By Sue Ann Gardner, Scholarly Communications Librarian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

When I saw the title of President Lindsay's editorial in the last *ASP Newsletter*, I was interested to read his thoughts. As an administrator of the institutional repository (IR) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, assisting authors with self-archiving of their papers is my stock-in-trade. I understand that there are many approaches to self-archiving policies, and I knew that the *Journal of Parasitology's* policy had recently changed.

Working with *JP* previously was a real pleasure. It had an open policy, allowing authors to retain the right to upload the published version of an article into an author's IR or on his or her personal Web page. This, my colleagues and I felt, was as it should be. The author's intellectual output as published in a journal is *his or her* stock-in-trade. It is the product of months—and sometimes years—of planning, investigation, labor, and writing (also known as blood, sweat and, occasionally, tears). The least an author should be able to do, one would think, is to post the paper in the university repository or on his own lab page online. Beyond the sweat-of-the-brow consideration, it seemed a reasonable policy in that readers were able to access the so-called canonical version of an article (not just an author's version, galley proof, or manuscript version), that is, the one that would be cited in subsequent papers.

Professor Lindsay explains in his editorial that he spoke with a representative at Allen Press about why freely self-archiving *JP* papers is no longer allowed, not even in IRs or on personal Web pages. He said that, "Full versions of *The Journal of Parasitology* articles, including Open Access articles, may not be reposted on any website, including institutional repositories or authors' personal websites. However, we welcome links to the article on [www.journalofparasitology.org](http://www.journalofparasitology.org)." Professor Lindsay



reports that the Allen Press representative stated that, "There is no time limit after which you can self-archive on these [s]ites. The [half-]life of the *Journal of Parasitology* is greater than ten years and the papers retain their value making it difficult to determine how long a prohibition should be." There is a further claim that self-archiving adversely affects the financial status of the journal and, therefore, the Society.

I will say that, in my eight years working with the repository, this is far and away the *most restrictive* policy I have ever encountered. Even Elsevier has a much more open policy than this. For one thing, if you cannot even post so-called "Open Access" articles from *JP* on a personal Web page, what makes that "Open Access" in any sense? At the very least, paying for open access should ensure that the published version of the article—the one you, as an author, cite when you write later papers—can be posted wherever the author sees fit.

I note that Professor Lindsay's source of information for this piece was a representative of the *for-profit* company, Allen Press. Before Allen Press instituted this extremely restrictive permissions policy, the Society had been the copyright holder of the *Journal of Parasitology* for upwards of 100 years. The ASP is a society that has thrived without corporate intervention for as long, or longer, than most societies in existence today. Academic societies exist to further their fields of study and to facilitate scientific advancement, which is predicated on robust, dynamic, and authoritative written communication. Putting that writing behind a very restrictive paywall for readers, on one side, and demanding payment from authors, on the other side, does nothing to further this time-tested manner of communicating with one's peers, students, and the lay public. Delicately, I suggest that it does ensure the profitability of Allen Press.

Publishers used to serve in the function of printers. They administered basic editorial functions like copyediting, graphics lay out, typesetting, printing, and distribution. In the current technological environment, publishers see that desktop-style publishing is a powerful tool that diminishes their usefulness. An author can now easily create his or her own high-quality graphics, and can write with the assistance of grammar and spell checkers. Printing and distribution are often digital, and have become possible without the aid of a printing company. What are publishers to do to stay in business? They tell you that you must give away your copyrights, pay them a lot of money, and then they do for you what you have the expertise to do yourself. That is a fine trick and, from my view as an observer, Allen Press has done this very thing.

The Allen Press representative claimed that, "It is not the policy of Allen Press to allow self-archiving on these [s]ites [such as ResearchGate] because this practice adversely affects the financial status of the *Journal* and therefore the Society." How does posting on these sites adversely affect the financial status of the *Journal* and "therefore the Society," exactly, and to what extent? The non-systematic posting of single, random articles from a journal on scattered sharing sites is surely not a true threat to the financial health of the Society. Journal publishing is changing and can be done well



very cost-effectively. Clinging to the high-cost aspects of an old model of publishing in itself may be fiscally risky.

One might feel: The ASP has worked with Allen Press for a long time; doesn't the Society "owe" them its business? As a learned society, the ASP exists to support the field of parasitology, to facilitate mentoring and training, and to give an outlet for graphic and written products of research. The ASP owes its members financially-sustainable operations. If a long-time partner changes its practices, the Society needs to evaluate objectively if those changes are in line with the mission of the group. It seems evident that the needs of the partners cannot lead decisions.

One might claim: The Society is getting more money now than ever before due to this arrangement with Allen Press. This may well be so, but at what cost? Relying on article processing charges to ensure the financial health of the society seems to me like a structured investment. Why tie proceeds to publication and go through a middle entity? Tying the financial health of a society to professors' mandatory job duties is problematic. At its worst, it is coercive and it is open to rife corruption of the process. In addition, pay-to-play publishing is exclusionary. Professor A can pay, Professor B cannot. Whose work do we see? Is Professor A's work more valuable to us because he can pay to have his work published?

The Society's contract with Allen Press will expire at some point and, in the interim, there is an opportunity renegotiate with them thoughtfully, or to look for a better outlet for the time-honored *Journal of Parasitology*. There are many publishing ventures arising from universities themselves, in libraries and academic departments, on viable and stable electronic platforms, that require very little overhead to administer. If even a fraction of the current article processing charges were pooled, the *Journal* could continue to be published not-for-profit, with the option to again allow authors to retain all rights to share work freely. See examples from the [University of Pittsburgh](#), the [University of Massachusetts Amherst](#), and [Duke University School of Law](#) as three excellent beacons.





## Northern California Parasitologists (NCP) Winter meeting

The NCP met on February 7, 2015 at UC San Francisco, Mission Bay. Our featured speaker was Dr. Mark Siddall (American Museum of Natural History; President-elect of ASP), who spoke on "New applications and leech applications."

Student paper competition award winners included Calvin Lee (San Francisco State University), who won the Walter Carr award for his presentation "X-cell tumors in juvenile English sole (*Parophrys vetulus*) and immunogenetic variation". Dena Emmerson (San Francisco State Univ.) won the best student paper competition (Balmuth-Horen Award) for her presentation "The effects of haemosporidian parasites on song in Nuttall's white-crowned sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys nuttalli*)."



Figure 2. Photograph: NCP graduate student award winners Calvin Lee (left) and Dena Emmerson (center), with NCP



President Steve Nadler (right).

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**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PARASITOLOGISTS Winter Meeting 2015 (February 7)**  
**UC San Francisco Mission Bay Campus**

- ~10:15 a.m. Welcome – Steve Nadler (University of California Davis), President NCP  
~10:30 a.m. Dr. Mark Siddall (American Museum of Natural History, Division of Invertebrate Zoology), President-elect, American Society of Parasitologists, “New applications and leech applications.”  
~11:30 a.m. Dr. Judy Sakanari (University of California San Francisco) “What’s happening in parasitology at UCSF”  
~12:00 p.m. **Lunch**  
~1:00 p.m. Dr. Mark Siddall (American Museum of Natural History), “Countdown to zero: Defeating disease” – a new exhibit at the AMNH  
~1:30 p.m. Coffee break  
~1:45 p.m. Dena Emmerson (San Francisco State University), “The effects of haemosporidian parasites on song in Nuttall's white-crowned sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys nuttalli*).”  
~2:00 p.m. Calvin Lee (San Francisco State University), “X-cell tumors in juvenile English sole (*Parophrys vetulus*) and immunogenetic variation”  
~2:15 p.m. Jenny Carlson (University of California Davis), “Culicine vector competence in the case of an avian malaria co-infection.”  
~2:30 p.m. Break for awards committee evaluation  
~2:45 p.m. Students Awards and Brief Business Meeting





## Employment Opportunities



The Department of Veterinary Sciences at the University of Wyoming seeks a full-time, tenure-track clinical Parasitologist at the Assistant Professor level. Minimum requirements: PhD in a relevant discipline and/or DVM plus a research Master's degree in a relevant discipline. Documented parasitology clinical diagnostic experience and demonstrable biomedical research ability are required. Demonstrated excellent interpersonal and communication skills, and ability to work with others in a collegial team atmosphere are required. Preferred qualifications: DVM with PhD in a relevant discipline; residency training plus certification in a laboratory diagnostic discipline by American College of Veterinary Microbiology (ACVM), American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists (AAVP) or equivalent professional certification. Demonstrated interest, aptitude, and capability for scholarly activity related to parasitic diseases of livestock, wildlife, and/or companion animals is highly desirable, as is teaching expertise at the undergraduate, professional and/or graduate level.

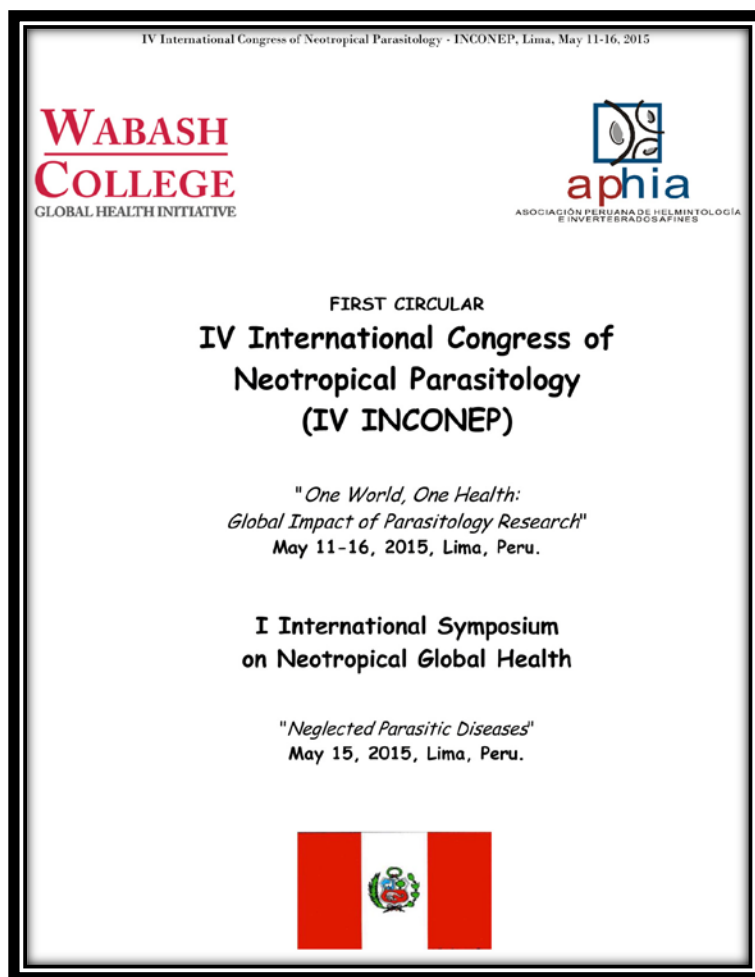
The candidate will function as a diagnostic veterinary parasitologist in a team with other animal disease experts within the Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory (WSVL). Diagnostic duties include parasitological examinations on diverse species of animals to diagnose causes of disease. In addition, successful applicants will establish and/or maintain extramurally funded and/or collaborative research programs, teach at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and collaborate with a vibrant community of basic and clinical scientists within Veterinary Sciences and other degree programs. Position duties and anticipated percentage efforts are: professional diagnostic service and extension in the WSVL (40%) including: supervision of daily operations, long-term planning, and development of a modern, service-oriented animal diagnostic parasitology laboratory; research or creative activity (30%), teaching (25%) and University service (5%).

The position offers excellent potential for collaboration and professional growth. Traditional parasitological methods will be employed as well as molecular diagnostics such as PCR and sequencing/genome analysis. There is a need for development of improved or novel approaches for diagnosis of important parasite pathogens in a wide number of animal species. The WSVL has a good working relationship with the Wyoming Department of Health, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and other governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations. The University of Wyoming, a land grant institution, is the only four-year university in the state. The University is located in rural southern Wyoming in the small city of Laramie, population approximately 30,000, close to excellent outdoor activities in the nearby Snowy and Laramie Ranges and near cultural and other amenities along the Front Range of Colorado. For more information department and the Laramie area, please visit: <http://www.uwyo.edu/vetsci/> and <http://visitlaramie.org/>.

The University of Wyoming is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or protected veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law and University policy. Please see [www.uwyo.edu/diversity/fairness](http://www.uwyo.edu/diversity/fairness).



## Other Meetings



The Organizing Committee of the IV International Congress of Neotropical Parasitology (IV INCONEP) is pleased to invite the scientific community, representatives of governmental agencies, NGOs, private enterprises and the general public interested in participating in the IV International Congress of Neotropical Parasitology, to be held in Lima, Santiago de Surco, Peru from May 11th to 16th, 2015.

The IV International Congress of Neotropical Parasitology will develop lectures, panel discussions, meetings and oral presentation of posters on various topics concerning the development of parasitological research with an emphasis on the Neotropical region. Furthermore, we will provide an atmosphere of community conducive to exchanging views among various national and international specialists with the aim of finding better approaches to address and solve problems in this broad field of study that is increasingly prevalent and important to society.

-- Organizing Committee, IV INCONEP



### **Congress Objectives**

Create a link between transdisciplinary professionals from academia, government, business, nongovernmental organizations, and public institutions, aiming to apply the knowledge of parasitology-related activity in relation to the human communities and development, recognizing its importance to Conservation, Biodiversity and Public Health.

Consolidate the Peruvian Association of Helminthology and Associated Invertebrates (APHIA) and the Global Health Initiative of Wabash College (Indiana, US), outlining the services provided in Peruvian and Latin American society; to weigh the impact of their work in science and to gain regional perspectives in their future collaborations with institutions abroad in light of current areas of study.

### **Scientific Committee:**

Alfonso Marzal - Reynolds - Universidad de Extremadura, España.  
Daniel Zarate - Rendón - Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina, Perú.  
Kyle Luth - Wake Forest University, USA.  
Mariluce Goncalves - Fonseca - Universidade Federal do Piauí, Brasil.  
Mercedes Gonzales - De la Cruz - Universidad Ricardo Palma, Perú.  
Omar Amin - Parasitology Center, Scottsdale, Arizona, USA.  
Zully Hernandez - Russo - Universidad de la Republica, Uruguay.

### **Organizing Committee:**

President: José Alberto Iannacone - Oliver  
Vice – President: Reinaldo José da Silva  
Secretary: Jorge Manuel Cárdenas - Callirgos  
Treasurer: Ivy Maura - Gonzales  
FirstVocal: Gloria Sáez - Flores  
Second Vocal: Lidia Sánchez - Pérez  
Neotropical Parasitology Research Network Coordinator: Carlos Pineda - Castillo  
Scientific Committee Coordinators: Eric J. Wetzel & José Alberto Iannacone - Oliver

### **Information:**

[aphiaperu@gmail.com](mailto:aphiaperu@gmail.com)

[globalhealthinitiativeperu@gmail.com](mailto:globalhealthinitiativeperu@gmail.com)

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## 9th International Symposium on Fish Parasites



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Announcement of the 9<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Fish Parasites, to be held from 31<sup>st</sup> of August to 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2015 in the University of Valencia (Spain)

We cordially invite you to enjoy this prestigious scientific event and to get to know Valencia, a wonderful Mediterranean city. During your stay you will visit a warm and lively city with both historical and modern architecture and monuments, nice beaches and one of the largest aquaria in Europe, while enjoying the Mediterranean lifestyle and gastronomic delights of this cosmopolitan city.

The scientific programme will include all of the various disciplines and research fields of fish parasitology, with a special reference to the "New Challenges in Fish Parasitology" facing us in the coming years. In the form of Sessions, Workshops and International Collaborative Forums, the conference will deal with numerous topics, such as: parasites affecting aquaculture and fisheries, fish-borne diseases, diagnostics and management of parasitic diseases, biodiversity, parasites and global change, parasites as bioindicators of pollution and environmental quality, alien and invasive species, emerging diseases, ecology and evolution, life cycles and food webs, histopathology and immunology, physiology, morphology, systematics and phylogeny. Special sessions will be focused on the major taxonomic groups: Protista, Fungi, Myxozoa, Monogenea, Trematoda, Cestoda, Acanthocephala, Nematoda and Crustacea.

The scientific programme will include plenary talks from distinguished invited speakers, oral presentations and poster sessions to promote discussion, culminating in a networking forum.

**The deadline for online abstract submission is April 1st, 2015.**

There will be **awards for the best student presentations**, and a limited number of free (partial or total) **registration fee grants** will be provided for young scientists.

Further details will be announced on the ISFP website [www.9isfp.com](http://www.9isfp.com)

For further information, please contact us at [9ISFP@adeituv.es](mailto:9ISFP@adeituv.es)

We look forward to welcoming you at the 9th ISFP in Valencia 2015!

The Organising Committee



UNIVERSITAT  
DE VALÈNCIA



CSIC  
CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS



## Joint Meeting!

Southeastern Society of Parasitologists and the  
Helminthological Society of Washington



**JOINT MEETING OF  
THE SOUTHEASTERN SOCIETY OF PARASITOLOGISTS  
AND HELMINTHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON,  
VIRGINIA TECH, BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA  
APRIL 9-11, 2015**

The Departments of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology and Department of Biology, Virginia Tech and the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine at Virginia Tech welcome the members and guests of the Southeastern Society of Parasitologists and Helminthological Society of Washington to Blacksburg, Virginia for our joint meeting.

### **REGISTRATION**

Pre-registration for the meeting is \$65 for non-student members, \$50 for student members and \$40 for spouses/significant others if mailed and post-marked by March 15, 2015. After that time, registration will be \$90, \$75 and \$65, respectively. You may become a member of the SSP and/or the Helm Soc (or renew your membership) at the time of registration. Your registration fee covers a portion of the costs of the conference center facilities and expenditures for food and beverages provided during the meeting. If you pre-register but cannot attend the meeting you will be refunded your entire registration fee if we receive notice two weeks prior to the meeting. Late registration will be possible at the meeting site from April 9-10. Meeting materials will be issued upon arrival at the meeting. You can register online via [www.thessp.org](http://www.thessp.org) or by mail.

### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

We have arranged a block of rooms at the Days Inn Blacksburg located 1 mile away from the main meeting venue. The hotel group sales asked that everyone **please make your room reservation by calling 1-877-361-2506** rather than doing it online or by calling the front desk. Be sure to use the confirmation number **(37790188)** for the group rate and the **SSP block** and please do so **before March 27<sup>th</sup>**. The address for the hotel is **3503 Holiday Lane, Blacksburg, VA 24060** and the front desk may be reached at 540-951-1330. The rooms will be \$64.79 + tax and there is a continental breakfast provided as well as coffee available in the lobby. More details can be seen on the website (<http://www.daysinn.com/hotels/virginia/blacksburg/days-inn-blacksburg-conference-center/hotel-overview>)

### **VENUE**

**Presentations** will be held April 10 & 11 at the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine II (VCOM II). VCOM II is located at 2280 Kraft Drive, at the corner of Research Center Drive and Kraft Drive on the left, across the street from the main VCOM (VCOM I) building.

<http://www.vcom.edu/visit/directions-VCOM2.html>





## Summer Course in Parasitology!



University of Bari, Italy  
Department of Veterinary Medicine



European Veterinary  
Parasitology College

### IV Parasitology Summer Course (ParSCo)



### Residency Course on ARTHROPOD VECTORS AND TRANSMITTED PATHOGENS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA

5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2015

#### SPONSORSHIP

Golden Sponsor Silver sponsor

and with the participation of







*Cari colleghi,*

Following three consecutive successful years, we are pleased to announce the fourth edition of the Parasitology Summer Course (IV ParSCo) organized by the Parasitology and Mycology Unit of the Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bari (Italy), with the support of the European Veterinary Parasitology College (EVPC) and of *Parasites & Vectors*.

Also this year the ParSCo will be an intense, one-week long course for parasitologists and post-graduate students working in the field of veterinary parasitology. This course is mostly focused on practical activities, with theoretical lectures making up less than 40% of the whole program. The program traditionally includes oral lectures and practical activities on collection, identification and management of parasites such as *Leishmania infantum*, sand flies (e.g., *Phlebotomus perfiliewi*), ticks (e.g., *Ixodes ricinus* and *Rhipicephalus turanicus*), and the eyeworms (*Thelazia callipaeda*). Attendees will also have the opportunity to participate in bird trapping sessions and tick collection from birds as well as necropsies of wild cats for the detection of lungworms (*Aelurostrongylus abstrusus* and *Troglostrongylus* spp.).

The course traditionally takes place in Basilicata, southern Italy, in the heart of the Mediterranean. This region is fairly suitable for an optimal development of arthropods and thus for the life cycles of many parasites causing arthropod-borne diseases. A considerable diversity of parasite species, inhabiting different microenvironments, can be found in Basilicata. This region has received considerable attention from researchers, not only for its outstanding species richness, but also because it represents a potential model for other areas in the Mediterranean countries, given the environmental and climatic changes that are currently occurring in this region.

We look forward to meeting you for a successful IV ParSCo meeting and to sharing with you our experience in the field of parasitology!

*Domenico Otranto  
Filipe Dantas-Torres  
University of Bari, Italy*

*This course sounds cool! (Editor)*

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

For any information, please refer to the secretariat ([dedonno.cinzia@gmail.com](mailto:dedonno.cinzia@gmail.com)).

## **SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZERS**

Domenico Otranto DVM, PhD, Dip. EVPC, FRES Professor of Parasitic Diseases Department of Veterinary Medicine University of Bari Str. prov. per Casamassima km 3 70010 Valenzano (Bari), ITALY e.mail: [domenico.otranto@uniba.it](mailto:domenico.otranto@uniba.it) <http://www.bariparasitology.it/>

Filipe Dantas-Torres MV, MSc, DSc, PhD, Dip. EVPC, FRES Department of Immunology Aggeu Magalhães Research Centre Av Prof Moraes Rego s/n 50670465 Recife/PE, Brazil Department of Veterinary Medicine University of Bari Str. prov. per Casamassima km 3 70010 Valenzano (Bari), ITALY e.mail: [filipe.dantas@cpqam.fiocruz.br](mailto:filipe.dantas@cpqam.fiocruz.br)



**(course info. cont.)**

#### **SECRETARIAT**

Dr. Maria Cinzia De Donno Department of Veterinary Medicine Str. Prov. le per Casamassima km 3 70010 Valenzano (Bari), ITALY e.mail: dedonno.cinzia@gmail.com Phone: +39 080 4679837 Fax: + 39 080 4679837

#### **VENUE**

Parco Regionale di Gallipoli Cognato, Matera, Basilicata, Italy.

#### **PARTICIPATION FEE**

The total cost for participation is € 1000

- € 440 is to be paid directly to the Hotel on-site (includes accommodation, coffee break, light lunch, and dinner). Cash payment is preferred.
- € 560 is to be paid to the EVPC (includes place of the meeting, teaching and laboratory material, transportation to field sites and others).

#### **DEADLINES**

-Application: 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 (closed).

-Communication to the secretariat regarding flight schedules: 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

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## **POST DOC**

### **American Museum of Natural History**

#### **Postdoctoral Fellowships in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology**

The American Museum of Natural History seeks highly qualified applicants for its Gerstner Postdoctoral Fellows program in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology. Successful applicants must be able to work effectively in applying innovative techniques to pursue independent and collaborative bioinformatics and computational research in integrative studies of genomics or spatial bioinformatics or biodiversity informatics, alongside faculty and other researchers interested in phylogenetics, phylogeography, evolutionary studies, and phenomics (the use of high-throughput computational methods to analyze morphological, physiological, and other phenotypic form and function). Fellows also will participate in the design, development and implementation of new algorithms, bioinformatics tools and infrastructure and computational methods to facilitate genomic assemblies and analyses, as well as developing methods to catalyze ongoing synthesis of phylogenetic information and address 'big data' issues from a computational perspective.



A portion of each Fellows' efforts also will include: 1) teaching, training and workshops, 2) research collaboration with and assistance to faculty, postdoctoral fellows, students, and other Museum colleagues in accessing including data storage, retrieval, and assembly; and 3) maintaining software and related resources.

The initial appointment will be for one year, potentially renewable for one to two additional years based on performance.

**Requirements:** Applicants must have a PhD in Biological Sciences, Bioinformatics, Computational Biology, Computer Science, Molecular Biology, Genomics, or a related discipline, with experience in computational biology, bioinformatics, creating databases and computational pipelines, and analysis of large biological data sets. Proficiency in programming and scripting required (ideally Python, Perl, and R), and familiarity with other languages, such as mysql, C++/C, or Java, is desirable. For bioinformatics and computational biology tool development, candidates should have documented skills in various areas of expertise, such as next-generation sequence processing (quality screening and error correction), de novo and reference guided assembly for non-model eukaryotic whole genomes and transcriptomes, read mapping, gene annotation and discovery, and/or processing phenomic, transcriptomic, and phylogenomic datasets. Experience in a bioinformatics setting and in operating and maintaining high performance linux/unix servers preferred. Candidates should have extensive research experience with a solid publication record, ideally with some experience in phylogenetic methods, and excellent interpersonal, writing and problem-solving skills.

**Application:** Applicants should submit the following materials electronically, preferably as PDF files, via a single email message to [Gerstnerbioinfopostdoc@amnh.org](mailto:Gerstnerbioinfopostdoc@amnh.org) (**Subject line:** 2015 Gerstner Bioinformatics-Computation Postdoc: your name): 1) a cover letter in which you indicate your interest, experience, and qualifications for the position; 2) a short (2-4 page) prospectus of the type of research project(s) and bioinformatics-computational biology tools you propose to develop during the postdoctoral appointment, 3) a curriculum vitae, with names of at least 2 references; and 4) PDF files of up to five recent publications, or other documentation of relevant accomplishments in bioinformatics/computational biology. Applicants also must arrange for 2 academic reference letters to be sent by the due date to [Gerstnerbioinfopostdoc@amnh.org](mailto:Gerstnerbioinfopostdoc@amnh.org) (**Subject line:** 2015 Gerstner Bioinformatics-Computation Postdoc Reference Letter: applicant name). **DUE DATE:** April 27, 2015.

*The American Museum of Natural History is an Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action Employer. The Museum encourages Women, Minorities, Persons with Disabilities, Vietnam Era and Disabled Veterans to apply. The Museum does not discriminate due to age, sex, religion, race, color, national origin, disability, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other factor prohibited by law.*

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

### Note to the Parasitologists of the World from Scott Gardner Curator, Harold W. Manter Laboratory of Parasitology

Recently we have been hearing from clients throughout the world, where colleagues are inquiring as to the long-term health of the Manter Laboratory (HWML) as a functioning and stable museum operation. Our staff has been in the field in Mongolia or in western Nebraska during most of the ASP meetings held over the past six years. **We would like to state in the strongest terms that we are operating at full strength, we have been publishing like maniacs, trying to get our data in the hands of science before the biosphere is reduced completely to rubble.**

At the current time we have about ten undergraduate students working in the lab along with, two graduate students (Auggie Tsogtsaikhan Durshainhan and Elizabeth Racz), one post-doc (Danielle Tufts), a curator (Scott Gardner), and collection manager (Gabor Racz). Both the collection manager and curator lines are state funded and permanent. The University administration has recently approved a plan to install a major Parasitology public programs exhibit during renovation of the top floor of Morrill Hall, so you will be hearing more of that in the next couple of years.

The University of Nebraska State Museum is now searching for a new director, so put in your application if you would like to run a world-class research and public display museum. As of today, we have 62,688 individual database records in our searchable database PARASITE. We are converting this over to ARCTOS a multiuser multi-institutional database with lots of cool features. The HWML also has established a cryogenic facility and we house a large number of frozen tissues of parasites and some of the hosts from which the parasites came.

Go to: <http://hwml.unl.edu> and access our databases in the legacy format or the new ARCTOS format. **Recent news includes:** Receiving a CSBR Grant from DBI and NSF to upgrade the collections at the HWML, receipt of a very large collection of arthropod parasites from the late **Nixon Wilson** estate, receipt of the huge collection of vertebrate (mostly reptiles) hematozoa from **Sam R. Telford Jr.**, and a massive collection from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, consisting of the collection of the late **Dr. Hargis**.

The collections that we made in Mongolia from 2009 – 2012 consisted of about 4,000 mammals, 2,500 birds, and around 1,000 herps and their parasites (both ecto and endo).

The image to the right is an example of the kinds of cestode larvae we were discovering in our dinner.

Contact [slg@unl.edu](mailto:slg@unl.edu) or call 402-472-3334.





### **Editor**

Scott Lyell Gardner, Ph.D.  
Editor, ASP Newsletter  
Curator of Parasitology  
The Harold W. Manter Lab. of Parasitology  
W-529 Nebraska Hall  
The University of Nebraska State Museum  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0514  
Tel: 402-472-3334 Fax: 402-472-8949

E-mail: [slg@unl.edu](mailto:slg@unl.edu)

### **Note to Members -**

The ASP Newsletter welcomes news stories, articles, poetry, photographs, etc. Please send your text electronically to the editor as an e-mail and attach as an MS Word document. Drawings, photographs, charts, or tables can be sent as B/W TIF files at 300 dpi. Please send TIF files one at a time. A general rule is to limit photograph size to 3x5". You may attach both text and graphic files to your email message.

Scott Lyell Gardner  
Editor, ASP Newsletter  
[slg@unl.edu](mailto:slg@unl.edu)

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